

**Amendments to the Claims:** This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim ~~1~~17, wherein ~~between the interior surface of the surrounding wall portion and the core portion~~ define an annular passage, ~~and there is a ring-shaped space and the articulation configuration of the second end of the arm includes an opening between said annular passage ring-shaped space and a hollow interior portion of the arm for the passage of said flexible pulling element.~~
3. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 2, wherein said flexible pulling element is a belt that terminates at the second end in a thickened configuration, ~~which is portion secured to a corresponding housing receiver incorporated formed on said exterior surface of the core.~~
4. (Currently Amended) An articulated arm, in accordance with claim 3, for an awning for use with a fixed support member and a load bar, the articulated arm comprising:
  - an arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the arm including a securing portion adapted for coupling to the fixed support member, the second end of the arm including a surrounding wall portion adapted for articulation;
  - a forearm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the forearm including a core portion adapted for articulation and coupled to the second end of the arm, the core portion having an orifice extending at least partially through the core portion in a direction transverse to a longitudinal direction of the forearm, the second end of the forearm including a portion adapted for articulation and coupling to the load bar, and the surrounding wall portion of the arm at least partially disposed around the core portion;
  - an elastic element disposed within the arm and secured to a predetermined location on the arm;

a flexible pulling element disposed within the arm, the flexible pulling element having a first end coupled to the elastic element and a second end coupled to the core portion of the forearm; and

bearing means disposed between the core and the surrounding wall, and coaxial with the orifice to guide rotation of the surrounding wall relative to the core portion and to support the forearm on the arm,

wherein the surrounding wall portion and the core portion define an annular passage, and the second end of the arm includes an opening between the annular passage and a hollow interior portion of the arm for the passage of the flexible pulling element,

said flexible pulling element terminates at the second end in a thickened portion secured to a receiver formed on the core portion,

said bearings means include at least one pair of first conical surfaces located positioned one of i) adjacent the end or ii) disposed on the end of the core portion, close to, or on, the ends of the core and

at least one pair of second conical surfaces combined with are disposed on the first conical surfaces and designed adapted to slide over the first conical surfaces them, the second conical surfaces located positioned one of adjacent at or close to immediately adjacent the an openings to the an interior cavity defined by the surrounding wall.

5. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 4, wherein at least one of the said first or second conical surfaces of each pair is either made of or coated with comprises a material with a low coefficient of friction in order to facilitate a sliding movement of the same in contact with the other of the first conical surfaces or relative to the second conical surfaces of each pair of surfaces in contact.

6. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 5, wherein those at least one of the first and/or second conical surfaces of each pair of surfaces in contact, which are made from a material having a low coefficient of friction, are part

~~of incorporated into~~ respective ring-shaped parts ~~housed~~disposed at least one of inside the core portion or on the surrounding wall portion.

7. (Previously Presented) An arm, in accordance with claim 6, wherein said ring-shaped parts are made from synthetic plastic.

8. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim ~~54~~, wherein at least one of the first conical surfaces ~~and/or~~and second conical surfaces is located respectively ~~on~~adjacent the surrounding wall portion ~~and/or~~ the core portion, ~~or on auxiliary parts joined to them,~~ and at least one of the first and/or second conical surfaces ~~of each pair of surfaces in contact has~~comprises either received an antifriction treatment or ~~is coated with~~ a material having a low coefficient of friction.

9. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 4, wherein the ~~articulation configuration of the first end of the forearm comprises a fork defined by first and second lateral supports~~parts support portions that face each other, between which the core portion is ~~housed~~disposed and secured by means of a securing pin inserted axially through at least one hole in at least one of said first and second lateral supports, ~~the said surrounding wall portion remaining disposed around the core portion, and the second conical surfaces in contact trapped between with the two first conical surfaces and with the surrounding wall portion~~second conical surfaces in contact with them.

10. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 9, further comprising:  
at least one end part having a central hole formed therethrough; and  
a pin,

wherein the first lateral support includes a first hole and one end of ~~the said core portion;~~ ~~close to~~adjacent ~~the said first lateral support incorporates~~includes one of the first conical surfaces, and the second lateral support includes a second hole with a slightly conical interior surface on which is seated a first surface ~~combined with an of the end part, a second surface of the end part which incorporates~~comprising the other of the first conical surfaces, ~~with said central hole of said end part including a central hole aligned with the central hole~~orifice in the core, which is aligned with

said first hole of the first lateral support, and ~~a~~the pin is inserted and retained in a housing defined by the said central hole of the end part, the central hole orifice in the core portion and the first hole in the first lateral support.

11. (Previously Presented) An arm, in accordance with claim 10, further comprising means for retaining said pin inside said housing against any movement in an axial direction.

12. (Previously Presented) An arm, in accordance with claim 11, wherein the first hole in the first lateral support and the central hole of the end part have slightly conical surfaces and said pin is tubular with end portions that are widened against said slightly conical interior surfaces of the first hole and the central hole respectively.

13. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 11, further comprising plugs for the first and second holes in the first and second lateral supports, with said plugs having securing configurations ~~that are~~adapted for press fit pressure inserted into the hollow pin.

14. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 4, further comprising an end part,

wherein ~~the articulation configuration of the first end of the forearm comprises a lateral support that projects from the core portion, and an~~the end part is coupled joined to the a free end of the core portion by means of at least one securing element, where one of said first conical surfaces are disposed at the base of the core portion and another of said first conical surfaces is incorporated~~included~~into said end part, the second conical surfaces disposed between leaving the surrounding wall trapped between and the two first conical surfaces and with the second conical surfaces in contact with them.

15. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim ~~14~~, further comprising at least one pair of stops located on an interior surface of the surrounding wall portion or on said exterior surface of the core portion, in positions adapted to interfere during rotation of the forearm with respect to the arm~~[[,]]~~ with a protuberance on the exterior surface of the core portion or said interior surface of

the surrounding wall portion in order to limit the ~~an~~ angle of rotation of the forearm with respect to the arm.

16. (Currently Amended) An arm, in accordance with claim 12, further comprising plugs for the first and second holes in the first and second lateral supports, with said plugs having securing configurations adapted for press fit ~~that are pressure inserted~~ into the hollow pin.

17. (New) An articulated arm for an awning for use with a fixed support member and a load bar, the articulated arm comprising:

an arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the arm including a securing portion adapted for coupling to the fixed support member, the second end of the arm including a surrounding wall portion adapted for articulation;

a forearm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the forearm including a core portion adapted for articulation and coupled to the second end of the arm, the core portion having an orifice extending at least partially through the core portion in a direction transverse to a longitudinal direction of the forearm, the second end of the forearm including a portion adapted for articulation and coupling to the load bar, and the surrounding wall portion of the arm at least partially disposed around the core portion;

an elastic element disposed within the arm and secured to a predetermined location on the arm;

a flexible pulling element disposed within the arm, the flexible pulling element having a first end coupled to the elastic element and a second end coupled to the core portion of the forearm; and

bearing means disposed between the core and said surrounding wall, and coaxial with the orifice to guide rotation of the surrounding wall portion relative to the core portion and to support the forearm on the arm.